

[Adobe Photoshop Elements 7 Classroom in a Book](#)

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In general the documentation that comes with computer programs does a fair job of describing how to navigate the program and execute menu and toolbar options. However, this documentation often fails to explain under what circumstances these various options should be utilized. This is sometimes obvious. However, in image editing and similar programs where a number of choices are based on the desired result, knowing not only how, but when to do something is important.

Books written by second parties fill this need by taking the time to explain in greater detail what options and commands are available and where it is appropriate to use them.

After working with digital images for a number of years and using several image editing programs, I decided to look at Photoshop Elements 7 to see if it offered improved and additional features. I was not surprised to find a great number of similarities, but there were indeed improvements and features that I could use. This prompted me to explore the program in greater detail.

To do this, I secured three second party books and set out to learn as much as I could about Elements. All these books helped me learn what I had hoped to, but of the three, [Adobe® Photoshop Elements 7 Classroom in a Book](#) proved to be the most comprehensive and preferred source of information.

I found [Adobe® Photoshop Elements 7 Classroom in a Book](#) to be extremely valuable in helping me to understand the layout and structure of the program. In addition to a program overview, it gave detailed information about how to execute program features, while providing a way to get “hands on” experience about what was being explained in writing. The books lesson format, including a CD with images necessary to complete the lessons, was the next best thing to actually being in a classroom. This also allowed me to work at my own pace and to a degree selectively learn about program features of interest.

At the end of each chapter, there were review questions (with answers) which if answered correctly insured that I had indeed learned what was intended.

In addition to explaining how to use the programs options, it gave examples about how to use them together to create projects to get the results I wanted.

I must admit that I have not read the book from cover to cover. That would be too much like having to go back to school. However, once I understood the layout of the book and the basic features of the program, I found that this book was a valuable resource and reference that I could use whenever I needed for additional information.

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